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THE PURDUE UNIVERSITY CALUMET
CHRONICLE

Week of September 12, 2011 Vol. 31, Issue 4

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PUC reflects on 9/11: Ten years later

Photo Provided

Jessica Gerlich
Chronicle Correspondent

The attacks on September 11, 2001 were by far the deadliest terrorist attacks ever launched against the United States, killing thousands of innocent people. As the tenth anniversary approaches, it is impossible to go a few hours without hearing some shred of remembrance linked to these terrible events.

The different collection of age groups represented at PUC brings with it a variety of viewpoints. Many current college students were only eight years old on Sept. 11, 2001, almost too young to understand what was going on. Sophomore Kim Estry was in fourth grade in Ohio during the attacks. She remembers sitting in class with frantic teachers who would not tell students what was going on. Estry also remembers being sent home early from class and coming home to her mother crying.

"I was kind of confused but not really worried because I had no idea what was going on. I had to ask my mom what terrorists and Twin Towers were," Estry said. When it comes to safety after Sept. 11, Estry feels like the changes in security are worth longer airport lines and she is "generally safe, especially living in Northwest Indiana."

Junior Lauren Schlipmann was checking her e-mail in her dorm room at the University at Albany (a few hours north of Ground Zero) when she found out about the attacks. Like so many, she turned on the television and watched United Airlines Flight

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Moon Festival celebrates life and happiness

Brandon Hayes
News Editor

As one of the most celebrated Chinese traditions, the Moon Festival is associated with the myth of the Moon Goddess of Immortality and on Sept. 10, Chinese farmers mark the end of the harvesting season. Also known as the Mid-Autumn Festival, this holiday falls on the 15th day of the eight month of the Chinese calendar.

On the night of Sept. 10, the Chinese Student Association along with a crowd of over 200 PUC students and faculty members came together to celebrate the Chinese moon festival. The Moon festival was held in the gym of the Fitness Center from 6 to 9:30 p.m.

CSA President Yang Wang began the evening by welcoming the audience and giving thanks to PUC faculty members for their support and contributions to the CSA.

"In China, Sept. 10 is known as teacher's day, so I want to thank all the teachers and professors for always being there for us. We may not say this enough, but we love you," Wang said.

Photo: Morgan Walker

During the Moon Festival on September 10 members of the Chinese Student Association give a presentation of Chinese Kung Fu.

In attendance were Chancellor Thomas Keon, many Vice Chancellors, as well as other PUC faculty.

Chancellor Keon briefly addressed the crowd before the show began, citing the importance of celebrating different cultures.

"I think it is very important to share cultures within the university in order to develop inclusivity, so that everyone can feel welcome and at home here at the Calumet campus."

Keon said the event was wonderful because it was held on the eve of Sept. 11, the tenth anniversary of a troubled time here in the U.S.

"The Moon Festival is a time for thinking about family and the future, so how appropriate for it to be at any other time. We should think about those who were lost on that day and be thankful for our loved ones," he said.

After his speech, the CSA wished Chancellor Keon a happy

See MoonFest page 4

Student life at University Village

Andrea Drac
Staff Writer

Most PUC students commute from home to campus and back again in any way imaginable. However, in the past few years students have chosen to live in University Village, PUC's student housing program, a commute of a short walk across 173rd Street.

With two phases of University Village already built, the amount of its residents is growing every year.

"As of today, there are approximately 615 students assigned to the University Village community. We have more residents this year than last year," Interim Director of Housing and Residential Education Abbas Hill said.

Hill said housing is just one of the many things contributed to the positive and vibrant student life experience on campus.

Angelyn Hercules has been a UV resident since last year.

"I love living at UV, it's a really great environment and the people are extremely friendly. The best part is the privacy of having my own room," she said.

Abril Ramirez has been a UV resident for three years now and likes the staff and environment.

"The thing I like the most is that it's not too much of a party place. I can actually concentrate on my studies."

Hill said the environment at University Village simply depends on the student.

"Some students express concerns about the noise level on certain nights, while other students have very little issues with noise," he said.

"When conflicts arise, our residence life staff (resident assistants and their supervisors) use those moments to educate and help students reach agreements and compromises," Hill said. "These are lessons that will be applicable when students graduate and move into lives after college."

University Village has also made an impact on PUC students who are not residents.

LaToya Fleming, a Communication and TV Broadcasting major, visits her friends frequently and says the living conditions at UV are fantastic.

However, UV residents are unhappy at the hours Chartwells keeps. Closing at 7:00 p.m. on weekdays and not leaving them many food options over the week-

See Village page 5

Jessie Martin
Student Body President

Hello Hello PUC students, It is hard to believe, but we are already entering the 4th week of the semester. While time continues to pass by quickly, your Student Government Association (SGA) would like to update students on important upcoming events and some helpful information that may be of use to you.

Grievance Absence Policy for Students

Our colleagues in the Purdue Student Government, along with their Faculty Senate, passed a Grievance Absence Policy for Students (GAPS) last spring that went into effect July 1 of this year. This policy has the scope of the entire Purdue University system, so Purdue University Calumet students fall under it. The GAPS policy states: "Students will be excused for funeral leave and given the opportunity to earn equivalent credit and to demonstrate evidence of meeting the learning outcomes for missed assignments or assessments in the event of the death of a member of the student's family." Your SGA is very supportive of this measure, and looks forward to working with faculty members in notifying students of this new policy. More details on this policy can be found at the following link. http://www.purdue.edu/odos/services/griefabsencepolicyforstudents.php

Presidential Search for the Purdue University System

The President of Purdue, France Cordova, announced she would be stepping down effective at the end of the 2011-2012 academic year. A Presidential Search Committee was then established, and members of this group will be visiting our campus on Friday, September 16 from 3 pm - 4:30 pm in Gyte 103. Students are encouraged to attend and express what they believe the qualities and goals of the next *Purdue President should be.*

Remembering September 11, 2001

It is hard to fathom, but it has been ten years since the tragic events that took place in New York City, Washington D.C. and Shanksville, PA on September 11, 2001. I never could have imagined how much it would alter our country's direction when I first heard the news in my 6th grade science class. May we always remember the nearly 3,000 innocent people who perished on that day, their families and loved ones, and all of our armed forces who have been and still are fighting to keep us safe.

Miscellaneous SGA

The SGA still has several Representative positions open, and we have begun a process of accepting applications year-round, so those that are interested should apply whether positions are available or not at the time. We are currently in a search process for a student who would like to represent the School of Technology on the Student Senate. If you are interested, please contact the SGA. You can contact the SGA via studentgovernment@purduecal.edu, or through our Facebook page at Student Government Association - Purdue University Calumet. In a few weeks, we are hoping to launch our SGA website (www.pucsg.com), which will provide another means to contact us.

Until Next Time

The entire SGA is motivated and determined to have a productive year that should see positive changes for students at Purdue University Calumet. We have established what our goals are for the year, and have already begun striving toward these goals. I look forward to updating you on the progress and hopefully the completion of these in the weeks and months to come.

~ Jessie Martin | Student Body President
The weeks and months to come!

Paid for by the Student Government Association

What's Going On?
A look around PUC...

Purdue Vocal Company, Meeting/ Audition

If you like music and like to sing, please plant to attend an informational meeting and audition for the Purdue Vocal Company on Tuesday, Sept. 13th or Thursday, Sept. 15th in SUL room 353 (yJean Chambers Hall) at 3:30. If you are interested and cannot attend the meeting, please fill out an information sheet available from the director, Patricia Hales, in same room. The group is open to students, faculty, and staff and we sing for a wide variety of event including graduation.

Anyone interested in publicizing events, organizations, clubs or departments in "What's Going On?" must submit briefs the Monday before publication. The Chronicle does not guarantee placement of briefs submitted.

Please limit submissions to four sentences and include the first and last name of the contact person.

Briefs may be submitted via e-mail at chronicle@calumet.purdue.edu or campus cc:mail - Chronicle or to the newsroom located in the Student Union and Library building, room 344H.

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Try not to judge

Morgan Walker
Photo Editor

Prej • u• dice - an unfavorable opinion or feeling formed beforehand or without knowledge, thought, or reason. Every day you see people. It doesn't matter if it's online or face to face, when you see people you judge them. It's a sad truth but once you realize that truth, I feel like you should try your hardest to change the way you view people.

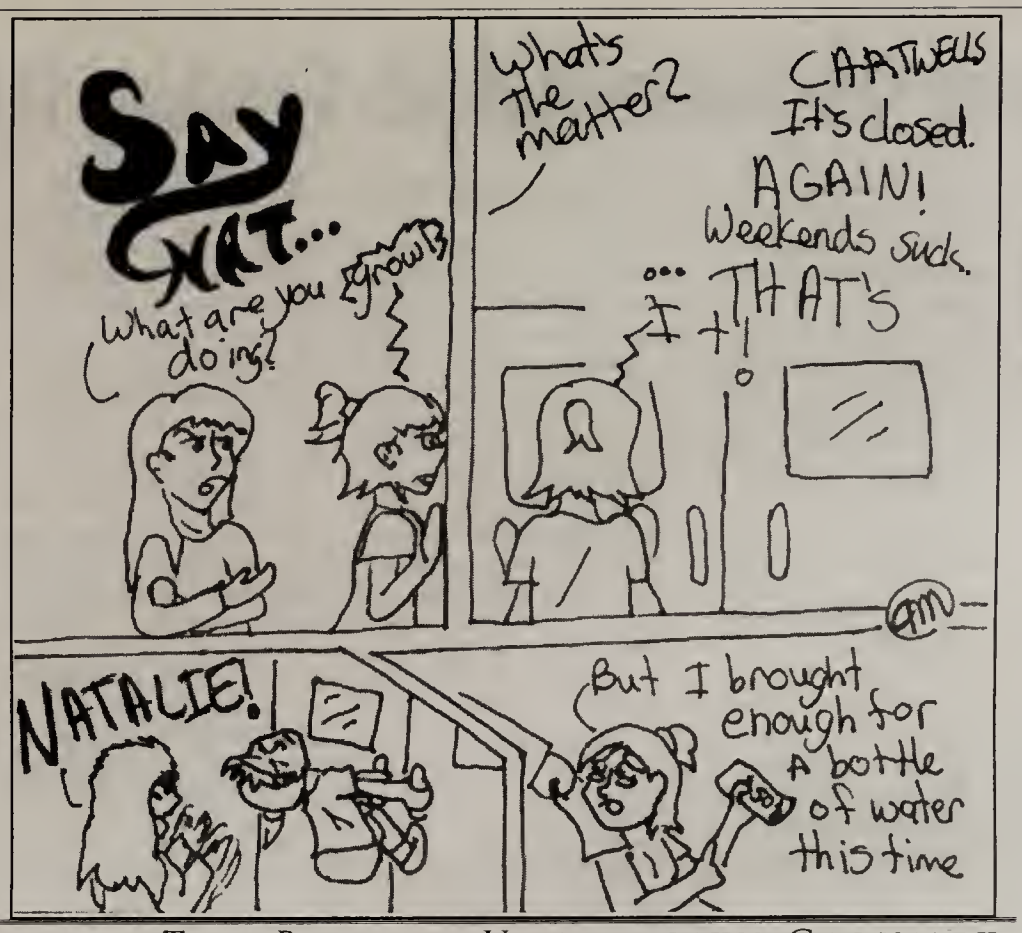
Some people let their prejudices figure out a person before they get a chance to know someone. I'm not saying you have to get to know everyone but at least give that person a chance. After I let go of most of my prejudices and got to know some of the people I had judged previous to even knowing their name, I found I was wrong about them. I've even had some people come up to me over the years and tell me they thought they couldn't approach me for numerous reasons.

"I tried being normal once so people wouldn't judge me, then I got bored and went back to my uniqueness." Simply stated, everyone is unique. That's not just something they tell you in grade school, it's the truth. Being normal is only an illusion, because there's something about you that isn't normal at all to someone else. Would you want them to judge you because of that unique factor?

I remember there was a girl that came to my high school after hurricane Katrina and according to everyone else, she dressed and spoke weird. Well me, being as attracted to "weird" as I am, I decided to get to know her and I found out that very few people knew she was refugee. They treated her badly because her clothes weren't as flashy as everyone else's and she had a thick Creole accent. I became her close associate for the whole time she was there and learned a bunch of things about New Orleans I probably wouldn't have known otherwise. Nearly all of my experiences of going out on a limb and getting to know someone "just because" have turned out favorable and I've gotten some really great lifelong friends out of it.

As all of you know this Sunday was the 10th year anniversary of the September 11 attacks. So many people's lives were affected and changed, but remember, you can't see all scars on the outside. I wanted to make this plea to everyone who reads this, because I feel if you judge a person before you know them, their pain, guilt or the tragedies they've experienced, you may not be able to help someone heal. Then, because of your ignorance, you weren't as useful to someone as you could've been.

Readers can contact Morgan at chronicle_photography@yahoo.com or (219) 989-2547.



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Bill Koester, Sports Editor
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'Rubber ducky, you're not the one'

The issue: People are abusing synthetic street drugs called "bath salts."
Our stance: Just say, "NO!"

Type in "bath salts" on any local news site and you'll see warning labels more terrifying than any cigarette packaging. Words like, "violent," "erratic" and "self-destructive" pop up in chilling abundances whenever the synthetic street drugs are mentioned.

With the National Drug Intelligence Center stating that calls to the U.S. poison control centers for possible bath-salts use jumped from zero in 2009 to an astonishing 2,237 through May 2011 according to Porter County Sheriff David Lain, it is becoming an increasingly large problem and danger running rampant throughout communities.

While the side-effects of snorting these synthetic street drugs might not sound all that different from any other drug addiction, delving deeper into what exactly defines the warnings of "violent" and "erratic" bring up results far more chilling than any scenes from "Apollo 18" or "The Exorcist."

An article by Vanessa Renderman in the Northwest Indiana Times paints a picture so graphic that not many would be comfortable reading it, but the story it tells is absolutely horrifying and eye-opening about how dangerous these bath salts truly are.

WARNING: THE NEXT PARAGRAPH IS EXTREMELY GRAPHIC AND NOT FOR THE FAINT OF STOMACH

"High for five days, despite being pumped with enough sedative to knock out a large adult for three days, hallucinations coursed through his mind.

Surveillance footage from the Lake County Jail shows the man strip naked and climb the wall like a spider, then pretend to conduct an orchestra or land planes before using the toilet and turning around to eat his feces. He took some of the feces to a table area, rolled it and ate more before doing a headstand in the toilet and then inserting his fist in his rectum."

/END WARNING

In one West Virginia case, a woman even attempted to scratch off her flesh because "she thought there was something under her skin."

With such immensely destructive and disturbing side-effects, one would think that would be enough to ward off any potential buyers. Problems still run rampant, however, as every time makes of the drugs are technically banned, dealers tweak the chemicals just enough to make them street legal. Customers flock, and fresh news stories flood out to the public all over again.

Despite all the warnings, some people still think it is a promising enough idea to risk going all Old Country Buffet on their own feces.

With the 10th anniversary of September 11, 2001 just having passed, one would hope that people would have a little more respect for the dead by leading truly fulfilling lives as the living. Fulfilling meaning maybe becoming a cop, teacher or firefighter as opposed to being so uncontrollably high that they perform a headstand in a toilet.

COMMENTS?

Write to us and see your thoughts in print!

The Chronicle Editorial Policy

The views expressed in submitted commentaries and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of The Chronicle or Purdue University Calumet. The Chronicle is not an official publication of Purdue University Calumet. The Chronicle welcomes reader input. Letters and commentaries must include the writers name, class standing or other affiliation and a telephone number for verification. The more concise the letter, the better chance of publication. All materials submitted to The Chronicle become the property of The Chronicle. The Chronicle reserves the right to edit for clarity, accuracy, space and news style. Deadline for submissions is the Friday before the publication.

Collegiate sports make the grade

Kenny Karrson
Copy Editor

This past Friday, the PUC men's and women's cross country teams competed in their first meet in Bourbonnais, Illinois. This was a momentous occasion for these athletes, since it not only marked the teams' season debut, but also the beginning of their first semester of existence.

Cross country is just one of several sports that have been introduced at PUC in the last couple of years, with other ones being volleyball, tennis and golf. The addition of these programs provides students with a broader range of athletics activities from which they can choose. Many students may be pleased at the prospect of continuing participation in sports they were involved with in high school.

As a former high school runner myself, I was excited when I originally learned that cross country would be introduced at PUC in the fall 2011 semester. The idea of becoming a member of a first-year program making history really appealed to me. It was actually one of the factors that helped me finalize my college decision.

The athletic department has done both student-athletes and the PUC community as a whole a great service by launching new sports teams on campus. Aside from generating more exposure for the university locally and regionally, it is helping to create an even-more-enriching college experience for the students.

These new programs, I think, are also serving as exceptional motivation for student-athletes to succeed in the classroom as well as in their respective competitive arenas. These individuals know if they are not keeping up with their academics, they will put their athletic eligibility at risk, at least temporarily.

Unfortunately, if a temporary absence is long enough, it can sometimes result in a lost season, depending on when the ineligibility occurs. The most important contests of an athletic season may be spent on the sidelines rather than in action if they are not careful.

The coaches and other individuals within the athletic department realize there is a sea of talent throughout the university, and they like the response to their sports programs. Yet, they cannot run the risk of having students' abilities in sports take precedence over their educations, either.

To ensure that such problems do not bear their ugly faces, the athletic department provides tutoring to any struggling athlete. I'm glad this system is in place because it makes finding academic assistance a lot easier for any students who need some help.

Between students' involvement in the variety of sports programs on campus and the athletic department doing its part to keep participants eligible, I think it is safe to say that PUC is well on its way to becoming a respected name in NAIA collegiate sports in upcoming years.

Readers can contact Kenny at kkarrson@yahoo.com or (219) 989-2547.

Lessons to be learned at Friday University

Kali Porzel
Staff Writer

Learning without the stress of homework and exams seems farfetched to college students, but PUC's Friday University is making that dream come true. Designed not only as a program for the PUC community to enjoy, but the Hammond community as well, everyone is encouraged and invited to learn about a topic they enjoy.

The event is a one-time, noncredit, personal enrichment class, which allows anyone interested to get back into the learning environment. The classes are geared towards older audiences, but everyone is encouraged to come and learn something new on a Friday when parking is not the fuel of terrible nightmares.

Friday University offers a variety of classes which include: How to start a business, Evolution, Disney and democracy, Financial planning and investment and Richard Nixon: the man in the arena.

All of the classes are taught by PUC staff, who chose to teach these noncredit classes because they want to share their knowledge with others.

Emily Hixon, professor of education, says instructional technology is going to be teaching the attendees about how to stay up to date with technology. Hixon plans to help participants understand, define and identify today's technology and wants to have current technology tools available for the participants to examine. She will be using online videos to explain the jargon of technology in simpler terms. The class Dr. Hixon is teaching will be taking place on Friday, Sept. 16 from 1 to 3 p.m.

Joseph Bigott, professor of history and political science will be exploring the consequences of big ideas that were brought about by the Chicago fire of 1871 and the 1893 World's Fair. He plans on explaining his topic with a presentation that will visually capture the audience and their reactions. Dr. Bigott will be teaching his class on Friday, Sept. 23 from 10 a.m. to noon.

Diana Virijevich, director of annual giving and alumni relations explained how the committee was pleased with the turnout for last year's Friday University, which was about 120 people. "I think it brings people who have never been here to campus and helps others experience PUC's varied academics," Virijevich said.

The variety of attendance is impressive because it shows everyone wants to learn about something and Friday University is a way to let people learn for a reasonable cost and no hidden exams.

The cost is $40 for one Friday and $70 for both Fridays. This includes two classes on the given Friday with a continental breakfast and lunch. Registration is on a first come first serve basis as the classes fill up. The classes will most likely be held in SUL and breakfast and lunch will be provided for in Alumni Hall.

Friday Sept. 16 10 a.m. -12 p.m.
- How to start a business
- Inequality in America: an analysis of its sources, its consequences, and possible solutions
- Richard Nixon: the man in the arena
- You as the patient: a toolkit for safety in the healthcare system

Friday Sept 16. 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
- Memoir writing
- Facebook, Twitter, and iPads, oh my! How to talk to your grandchildren
- Judgment at Nuremburg: the presence of evil and the absence of law
- Financial planning and investing

Friday Sept 23 10 a.m. -12 p.m.
- Chicago and the 1893 World's Fair: how big ideas produce unexpected consequences
- Steig Larsson's Girl Trilogy (The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo, The Girl who Kicked the Hornet's Nest, and The Girl who Played with Fire): Sweden's answer to Tom Clancy
- Keeping safe in a hospital: a closer look at infections turned deadly

Friday Sept 23 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.
- Disney and democracy: the U.S. media culture of individualism and consumerism
- Evolution
- The Sephardim journey: a house key, a map and a family recipe
- The rhetoric of political campaigns

To sign up for Friday University go to the Office of Advancement, 322 Lawshe Hall, or http://webs.purduecal.edu/alumni/friday-university-2011/.

MoonFest

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birthday, which is also on September 11.

The celebration included a play describing the tale of Moon Festival, a Chinese Kung-fu show and many musical performances including guitars, hip hop dances and Chinese instruments.

Ashley Rescot, violinist and limited term lecturer for PUC's department of foreign languages and literature gave a wonderful performance as well.

Chinese food, pizza and soft drinks were served for dinner, along with Moon Cakes, a Chinese tradition during the celebration of Moon Festival.

This year the festival was co-sponsored by the PUC International Program Office and Student Activities.

Proceeding dinner, games such as badminton, ping pong, karaoke and 3-on-3 basketball were played.

PUC student William He, originally from south China, has attended the Moon Festival for the past 5 years. He was impressed by this year's turn out.

"I thought this year was a larger success than any previous Moon festival here. We had a much larger crowd this time."

See more Moon Festival pictures on page 10 and online!

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Biodiesel: great fuel for great lakes region

Brandon Hayes
News Editor

As of 2009, the U.S. daily consumption of crude oil and natural gas amounts to over 18.8 million barrels, the most of any country in the world, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. Those numbers indicate a need for increased use of alternative fuels an absolute necessity, rather than the nation's continuing dependency on petroleum.

On Sept. 8, Northwest Indiana's South Shore Clean Cities Inc. hosted a presentation on biofuels and alternative resources at PUC's Technology Center in Crown Point.

The event was held as an effort to increase the use of biodiesel and other soy based fuels throughout the Great Lakes Region.

The keynote speaker was Jim Evanoff, an Environmental Specialist from the National Park Service, who has spent most of his career working at Yellowstone National Park in Montana. Evanoff outlined the history and significant steps Yellowstone has taken over the past century concerning transportation, recycling and introduction of alternative fuels, which now powers the entire park.

Yellowstone has been "Clean Cities designated" since 2002 and currently uses Biodiesel and renewable fuels to power all of its vehicles and provide electricity to all buildings within the park.

Evanoff said the National Park Service began testing the efficiency of biodiesel in the 1990's with an initiative known as "the greening of Yellowstone," making Yellowstone the first National Park to use a renewable fuel.

The project involved a 1995 Dodge Ram pickup truck that ran completely on E-100 biodiesel, produced by the University of Idaho. As of today, the truck has been driven over 200,000 miles and has never had a single drop of petroleum diesel in its tank. It averages approximately 6000 miles per its 300 gallon fuel tank, which is 20 miles to the gallon.

"Yellowstone has been the model testing ground because of our high elevation and severe climate. If the truck can be successful here, it can be applicable anywhere else in the country," Evanoff said.

Encompassing over 2,219,789 acres, the park has also made great strides in the way it disposes of its 4000 tons of garbage generated each year. Today, much of it is recycled and reused in products ranging from carpets, plastics, particle board, recycled vegetable oils and propane.

The presentation was attended by representatives from companies such as US Steel, Indiana Spray Foam, Paulson Oil and Green Alternative Systems.

Created in 1999, the SSCC is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy and is made up of a partnership between government and industry leaders with the goal of preserving Northern Indiana by promoting the use of clean fuels and vehicle technologies.

Stephanie Smith, PUC student and Intern with South Shore Clean Cities, said that by helping our area become more informed about alternative forms of fuel, such as biofuels, we can create a better future for not only Northwest Indiana, but the world.

"Working our way to being an area that is less dependent on foreign oil is SSCC's main goal," Smith said.

9/11

continued from page 1

175 crash into the south World Trade Center Tower. Schlipmann's roommate's uncle died in the towers, which was only one of many of her New York City native classmates' loved ones who were lost on that day.

"The attacks made me think about how something major really can happen and that adds an element of caution to daily life," Schlipmann said.

Drew Oppenhuis, a senior, says he was lucky in a way not to know anyone personally injured or killed on 9/11. He was in his seventh grade science class that day and remembers thinking it was not a big deal, hearing a plane crashed, and not thinking much of it at the time. He also thinks security is better now than it was a decade ago, but it still has a long way to go.

"The attacks show how easy it was to get past some security and how relaxed we were," Oppenhuis said.

On the other side of the world, Senior Tawfiq Namazi was in his hometown in Saudi Arabia. He said all television programs stopped to cover the United States terrorist attacks. He describes his feelings at the time as "amazement."

When asked how things have changed with safety and traveling since the attacks, for Namazi it has not been easy.

"I have had a lot of problems because of my nationality and the way I look, even though I travel all the time, I'm afraid too, just like everyone else," he said.

The United States was full of moments of silence the morning of September 11, 2011 at 8:46AM, 9:03AM, 9:37AM, 9:59AM, 10:03AM, 10:28AM. These moments commemorate a tragedy so loud that it can still be heard ringing in countless ears.

Remembering 9/11

"I remember that day so clearly. I had driven into Chicago every day for two years and never gave it a second thought, but on this particular day, I distinctly remember looking at the Sears Tower against a sunny blue sky, and thinking about how beautiful the skyline is. By the time I walked into the office, everyone was gathered around the TV. At the time, reporters were still speculating that some kind of a plane had crashed into the World Trade Center, but one of my co-workers was crying and saying that it was a terrorist attack.

Countless lives were changed by the events of 9/11, and although my family was not directly affected, I believe that these events had a direct impact on my two children choosing a military career. At the impressionable ages of 12 and 14, they spent a lot of time watching the ensuing events unfold. They both have a great sense of pride in their heritage as well as in our nation, and are proud to serve in the United States Navy.

Like the majority of Americans, I spent the next several weeks glued to the internet and TV, reading stories of hope and of pain, reading the outpouring of sympathy from people around the world, and awaiting our president's response to the attack. I still remember seeing our beautiful skyline that day, and even though they came together and rebuilt, I think that for New York residents, their skyline will forever hold the memory of that day.

-Lana Bilyk, academic advisor for PUC's department of communication and creative arts.

Village

continued from page 1

end leaves residents to their own devices to feed themselves. Hercules and Ramirez both keep groceries in their dorm but it is not enough.

"Personally, I think [Chartwells] should stay open later because some of my classes are late and I'm usually hungry when I get out," Hercules said.

Like all other student housing programs, UV hosts numerous activities to keep residents entertained when class is not in session. Activities Hill mentioned are Welcome Weekend, bursting with games and events, an Evening of Zumba, monthly movie nights and an interactive, diversity driven community Thanksgiving dinner.

"The Department's staff members focus on creating and developing educational programs, activities and community service opportunities that promote academic success and educate students outside of the classroom," Hill said.

University Village is also being widely recognized outside of PUC.

In May, the University Village Hall Council of PUC was awarded the "2010-2011 Building Residence Hall Association of the Year Award" at the National Association of College and University Residence Halls annual conference.

"The continued development of the residential education program and the resident assistant staff, the growth of our student organizations (University Village Hall Council and the Melinda K. Dalgarn National Residence Hall Honorary Chapter) are just some of the many ways that we work to help develop that campus vibrancy," Hill said.

Cyberpunk is not dead

Brian Lynch
Entertainment Editor

There is an unofficial internet rule (because all internet rules are unofficial) that says whenever someone mentions "Deus Ex," someone, somewhere, reinstalls it. There is a good reason for this rule: the original "Deus Ex" was a groundbreaking title. It was one of the first to combine a deep, satisfying roleplaying experience with a first person shooter. Its story was engaging, and the gameplay provided so much flexibility that no two playthroughs were the same. After a disappointing 2003 sequel and nothing since, developer Eidos Montreal has revived the franchise with "Deus Ex: Human Revolution," a prequel that was definitely worth the wait.

Set 25 years before "Deus Ex," players assume control of Adam Jensen, chief of security for mega-corporation Sarif Industries. Sarif is one of the leading developers in human augmentation, the act of replacing flesh and bone with mechanical modifications that grant the owner tremendous abilities. This act of "self-evolution" has led to fear and outrage, dividing the population on the issue. Just as key figures within Sarif are heading to Washington to discuss their latest breakthrough, the building is invaded by mercenaries who lay waste to everyone in sight. Jensen is mortally wounded in the attack, leaving his employers no other alternative but to heavily augment him in order to save his life. Using his new abilities, Jensen must find out who was behind the attack, and unravel the strands of a global conspiracy.

The variety of locations in "Human Revolution" is truly impressive. Borrowing heavily from dystopian films like "Robocop" and "Blade Runner," the game does an amazing job of establishing tone and atmosphere through its different locales. Interior locations, such as Sarif Industries, are pristine and futuristic, while the Detroit streets are destitute and garbage-strewn. There is a definite mix of old-world architecture mixed in with the newer technological achievements, lending a credible believability to the world. By the time the final credits roll, players will definitely feel as though they have seen all this bleak future has to offer.

Of course, it helps that the game is simply gorgeous. The graphics are extremely impressive, with a level of detail that is rarely seen. Every inch of space in the game cries out to be explored, and rewards curious players with numerous hidden areas and alternate paths. The level design is impeccable; buildings and neighborhoods are laid out in an intuitive and realistic manner, and are unique enough that getting lost is hardly ever a concern. Should players lose their way, however, a handy objective marker is always on-screen to direct them to where to go next.

The story of Jensen's quest for answers is expertly paced and riveting. Over the course of the game's 20+ hours, players will be kept wondering who, if anyone, they can trust.

But no matter how immersive or pretty a game may be, it is pointless if it does not deliver on gameplay. Fortunately, this is an area where "Human Revolution" truly shines. Just like the original "Deus Ex," catering to each players preferred style is the main attraction in "Human Revolution." Every mission objective can be approached by multiple means. Players can upgrade their augmentations with Praxis Points that are awarded through leveling-up and exploration. It is these upgrades that allow players to build the type of character they want to play. If sneaking around and picking off unsuspecting guards is appealing, go for it. If players choose to focus on hacking doors and security terminals to avoid action, the game makes it easy to do so. It even caters to the action-hungry "Gear of War" player with satisfying "snap-to-cover" combat and the ability to punch through certain walls like a cybernetic Kool-Aid Man. However, while upgrading Jensen's abilities is an easy task, choosing how to do so requires careful consideration. Focusing on a stealth build may make it difficult to survive a fire-fight further down the line. Neglecting to upgrade hacking skills could limit player's options, making an easier or safer path to an objective inaccessible later on. In "Human Revolution," success is determined not only by the choices you make, but also the choices you do not make.

"Deus Ex: Human Revolution" is the game "Deus Ex" fans have been praying for. Not only does it slap a fresh coat of paint on a classic series, it also improves upon it while staying faithful to the original. While minor concerns like aggravating boss battles, a somewhat rushed finale and occasionally glitchy enemy AI exist, they do not take away from what is easily a game-of-the-year contender.

"Deus Ex: Human Revolution," available for the PC, Xbox 360 and PS3, receives a 9 out of 10.

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Stupid, crazy plot devices

Kayla Greenwell
Managing Editor

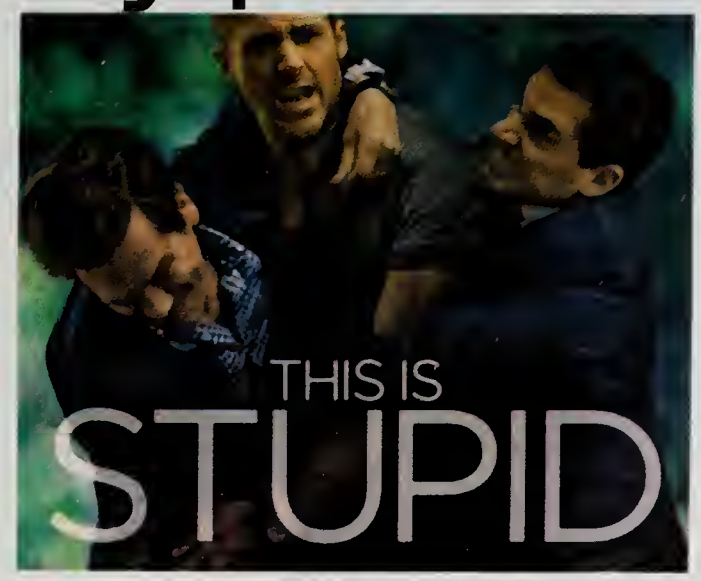
It does not matter how many times a romantic comedy sneaks its way onto the big screen, people will give up their precious money and flock to the sticky theater seats to watch a movie they have seen 3000 times before, and "Crazy, Stupid Love" is no crazy, stupid exception.

The story begins when Cal (Steve Carell) discovers that his wife wants to get a divorce. After moving out and moping for a good twenty minutes of the movie he meets Jacob (Ryan Gosling) who is a nefarious womanizer who teachers Cal how to pick up women. Ironically, half way through the movie Jacob falls in love and then has to ask Cal for help.

Steve Carrel does not so much play a role as he does recycle the same one over and over again. The "clueless, down-on-his-luck" guy has appeared in most of his other movies such as "40-year-old virgin" and "Date Night." This character works when it is in a straight comedy setting or in a more serious tone like "Dan in Real Life," but in this film it is just plain boring.

However, Ryan Gosling's first mainstream film appearance since "The Notebook" was one of the only things redeemable about this film. The hilarious, rainbow-vomit-inducing cuteness of the scene where Jacob and Hannah finally spend time together is the main factor in keeping audiences from walking out halfway through the film.

It was not even so much the acting as the pacing that needed to step up in this movie. Throughout maybe 50 percent of the film, the audience could have played a game of poker and checked their e-mails without missing a single important plot point. The very beginning, the very middle and the end were the only parts in this movie with any substance. The parts in between then were filled with minor subplots that were barely resolved, and when they were it was creepy (and not the good kind of creepy.)



heyuguys.co.uk

Even though "Crazy, Stupid Love" is a romantic comedy and stuck inside those strict, stereotypical lines it still manages to pull a semi-Shamalanian twist most people will really not see coming. However, what they do with the twist is disappointing and anti-climactic. The film is an average, run-of-the-mill romantic comedy that has its ups and downs. It is enjoyable, but ultimately lacks potential. "Crazy, Stupid Love" could be so much more.

"Crazy, Stupid Love" receives a 5 out of 10.

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www.purduecal.edu/studentactivities

Free Chocolate Milkshake Day
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Monday, Sept. 12
11am – 2pm; SUL Concourse

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Bubble Wonder
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- For kids of all ages
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Recruiting & Retaining Active Members; Executive Boards – Learning to Lead
Friday, October 14th
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SUL Concourse

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September 14
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Student Activities Presents
"The Switch"
Wednesday, Sept. 21
Movie & Popcorn - Free
TV Room, SUL
11am, 1pm & 3pm
Jennifer Aniston, Jason Bateman, Patrick Wilson
Miramax Films; Rated PG-13; 112 minutes; 2010
© Screen Gems

MC Chris will not be denied

Brian Lynch
Entertainment Editor

To legions of "Adult Swim" viewers, MC Chris is a household name. Thanks to his appearances on shows like "Aqua Teen Hunger Force" and "Sealab 2021," his voice has become instantly recognizable as MC Pee Pants and Hesh, respectively. But what many do not realize is that MC Chris has a legitimate music career. One of the mainstream pioneers of nerdcore (rap with a heavy nerd-culture influence) he has released several albums featuring songs about Boba Fett, Harry Potter characters and Reese's Pieces. With his newest album "Race Wars," the self-proclaimed "Dungeon Master of Ceremonies" proves that he can continue to refine his sound while staying true to his roots.

The album kicks off in typical fashion with a skit called "Congo." A group of podcasters who survived the apocalypse (who were also used on the album "MC Chris is Dead") are preparing to see the fictional film "Race Wars." The sketch is not particularly funny, and is recycled throughout the album. Things really begin with the next track "MC Chris is Back." The beats kick in and Chris does his best Flo-Rida impression, lazily drawling out lyrics like "MC Chris return/ watch him burn/like a shot a' jack." The track slowly builds to an intense refrain, and continues to build energy. "Buckle Up" continues to build momentum, and is one of the strongest tracks on the album. Boasting lyrics like "I'm the best rapper, Obama sent a certificate" it is clear MC Chris is not shy about his place in hip-hop.

"Jelly Inside" slows things down a bit. Featuring a marching band backing track, the song is a response to the haters who dismiss him. "You're just jelly inside/I'm just loving life" And "You talk trash that I jump with my motorbike" are among the lyrics that make this one of the most fun and enjoyable tracks on the album.

Fans who fell in love with Chris' nerdy pop culture name-dropping will have lots to love with "Race Wars." "Tarantino" is an f-bomb laden retelling of Quentin Tarantino's career. "Jones" is a reggae-flavored track about wanting to get high with Indiana Jones. "Nerd Cave" is about hanging out in, well, a nerd cave.

But "Race Wars" is not all grandstanding and smoking pot with fictional characters. "Restart" is a heartfelt song about feeling remorseful after cheating

hangout.altsounds.com

on a significant other and "On the Road" is about how rough being on tour can be for a musician.

The album "ends" with the skit "Fake Ending," but has a few hidden tracks afterward. Two hilarious skits featuring the return of Chris' manager Mr. Chandler, and a fake trailer for the film "Ninjas vs. the Projects III: Ninja Mom" more than redeem the earlier skits. A catchy rap about Batman called "Part One" brings the album to a satisfying close.

While it may not have as many standout tracks as previous albums, "Race Wars" proves that not only is MC Chris still a force to be reckoned with on the mic, he is always upping his game.

"Race Wars" by MC Chris receives a 9 out of 10.

mcchris.com

A 'Debt' worth paying

Bill Koester
Sports Editor

"The Debt" is a remake of a 2007 Israeli movie, and the lack of Hollywood influence shows. The movie is not the typical escapist thriller, and is instead gloomier, bleaker and more real in almost every way.

In the film, Jessica Chastain, Sam Worthington and Marton Csokas play agents of Mossad, the Israeli secret service, who supposedly killed notorious Nazi war criminal Dieter Vogel (Jesper Christensen) in the 1960s. 30 years later, the three (now played by Helen Mirren, Ciarán Hinds and Tom Wilkinson, respectively) are retired and considered national heroes in Israel. But when a man emerges in Ukraine claiming to be Vogel, they are forced to look back at what really happened during their fateful mission.

The film then shifts to a long flashback detailing their mission to apprehend Vogel, who was posing as a legitimate doctor in East Berlin at the time. This flashback takes up a big chunk of the middle of the film before returning to the later scenes; so much that it almost seems like two separate movies.

As a thriller, "The Debt" is not of the highest caliber. There are a few fast-moving sequences and jumps throughout, but overall there is not as much tension as one might expect. Instead, the movie finds its strength in character driven drama. Here, the film proves itself to be quite strong.

The protagonists are not invincible super-agents like James Bond or Jason Bourne. They are real people with real emotions, all the more palpable because of the nature of their mission. All the actors do a great job at conveying the characters' fear, anger and most of all, guilt when facing the truth.

A common criticism is movies can never depict the Nazis realistically, and they just come off as one-dimensional action movie villains that never carry the weight of the atrocities for which they are responsible. That is not the case at all here.

As Vogel (obviously based on real Nazi Josef Mengle, who performed heinous experiments on prisoners in Auschwitz), Christensen manages to create a villain that seems real, rather than a caricature that can be brushed off as just a pretend foil. Unlike so many movie bad guys, he is believably, unrepentantly evil, and that is terrifying. The viewer can empathize with the emotions the other characters feel when confronting such a monster.

Unfortunately, the film suffers from a major shortcoming, literally. At just under two hours, it seems too short. Parts of the story are not given ample time to develop, particularly in the later scenes, and also the love triangle, which seems to be tacked on and never really develops into a believable emotional arc. The filmmakers could have added another half hour or more to allow things to develop in better detail, and the picture would be no less compelling for it.

Still, despite this and an ending that seems just a little too convenient to believe, "The Debt" is one of the best-made pictures this year. It could have been a great film instead of just a very good one, but "very good" is more than enough.

"The Debt" receives an 8 out of 10.

allmoviephoto.com

Battles 'Drop' lead singer, polish up sound

Bobby Markos
Entertainment Writer

New York super group Battles burst onto the scene in 2006 and have continued to progress in their own special way. From working with United Visual Artists to make one of the coolest music videos of all time (for the song "Tonto" from 2007's "Mirrored") to collaborating with 80s new-wave pop sensation Gary Numan, the band has done exactly what they want, when they want and have become quite successful because of it.

As their newest album "Gloss Drop" continues to break onto billboard charts worldwide, many critics are asking what it is about the "experimental-math rock" group that is so attractive to listeners. Plain and simple: the band is extremely talented and the best at their game.

Since parting ways with lead singer Tyondai Braxton, the group has continued on as a trio, comprised of guitarists Ian Williams (formerly of Don Caballero), Dave Konopka (Lynx) and drummer John Stanier (Helmet). Their newest album features collaborations with the aforementioned Gary Numan, as well as Kazu Makino from Blonde Redhead, Matias Aguayo and Japanese vocalist phenomenon Yamantaka Eye. The new material is like a pop-ier rendition of its predecessor "Mirrored" with crisp, pristine production and catchy melodies and drumbeats. The broken time signatures and tricky musicianship is still there, but it is in a much more accessible light.

The album starts off with the instrumental "Africastle," which is keyboard and drum driven. The band has mastered the art of layering, making songs like cakes

See Drop page 9

'Apollo 18' leaves the *real* footage at home

Jessica Gerlich
Chronicle Correspondent

Anyone who likes watching a shaky camera cut in and out of "real" footage while waiting for some kind of cool-looking moon beings to appear will love "Apollo 18." That being said, the best thing "Apollo 18" has going for it is that it is a short movie.

"Apollo 18" begins with almost no introduction of its characters before they are swept off on a top secret mission to the moon. Commander Nathan Walker (Lloyd Owen), Lieutenant Colonel John Grey (Ryan Robbins) and Captain Benjamin Anderson (Warren Christie) collect rock samples and set up motion detector cameras to watch for Soviet attacks on the United States. All the while, these astronauts are suspicious of extra-terrestrial activity on the moon, finding foreign footprints and exploring huge craters.

A huge problem with "Apollo 18" is the viewer is not able to get to know the characters. Without any real connection, the viewer does not care too much if the characters (and try telling which one is which... with no real background story or substance the characters are very easy to mix up) are in serious danger. Performances were not terrible, there just was not enough there to work with. A half hour into the movie, the viewer is left saying "now what?" after not laughing at another failed joke. It is an hour of watching these guys get scared of something while looking out lunar windows but the much awaited reveal of that something never happens.

The "real footage" aspect of this movie really hurt it as well; it is very hard to watch a shaking camera mixed with lots of static for such a long period of time. At times the static added to the effect, but it was mostly annoying to say the least. It is hard to believe these men were swept from their lives on planet Earth to come to the moon and place spy cameras. It does not really help when the cameras are destroyed by extra-terrestrial matter.

Redeeming qualities include a makeshift surgery on a space vessel, killer moon parasites, Commander Nate Walker who is a little less distant by the end and as stated earlier the length of the movie. Also, the eerie feeling left when looking at panning images of the moon makes up for a very small portion of the boredom this movie calls forth. Overall, however, it feels as though the makers of "Apollo 18" are just trying to fill 80 minutes of screen time, stretching out whatever they can to make it fit.

Full of space jargon and slow beginnings, "Apollo 18" is definitely a renter. It is just not worth the money to see a movie and walk away wondering how the content filled the time slot.

"Apollo 18" receives a 4 out of 10.

stardusttrailers.com

Drop

continued from page 8

with plenty to sink your teeth into with every listen. The song transitions into different segments, between light-hearted and more urgent tones. Closely following is the first single, titled "Ice Cream," which features Aguayo on vocal duties. This is where the "pop" really begins to be apparent. A joyful, hopping keyboard melody is accompanied with a matching drum part, while Aguayo fills in the blanks with soothing vocal patterns. It is as if someone made a mainstream pop album skip, but to a metronome. It sounds like it would be irritating, but in reality it is just interesting.

What is most important to note is that Battles writes music that challenges listeners to pay attention and grasp everything that is at hand. Tracks like "Futura' and "Inchworm" break away from traditional time signatures and venture into new territory. The utilization of keyboards lure listeners in because of its poppy nature at face value, but in all actuality the two keyboards playing at the same time create a flurry of notes that blow about like a windy snowstorm. Suddenly the listener is engulfed in a tornado of notes that is being gently moved from point to point by powerfully driven percussion.

The highlight of the album would be the newest single "My Machines," which features Numan on guest vocals. Distorted bass combined with a flowing snare drum, hi-hat combination creates a moving phenomenon, much like a well-oiled machine. Numan contributes eerie vocals, and a bustle of quickly played keys backed by swelling synthesizer chords completes the picture. The vocals in the verse and chorus are the catchiest elements, driving listeners to go back again and again for another taste.

Another surprising moment would be "Sweetie & Shag," which features Makino singing over a rather traditional rock arrangement. The percussion is straightforward and the keyboards are restricted, creating an almost radio-friendly sound wave. But still it has that "Battles touch," making it just quirky enough to puzzle a listener upon his first listen.

After over 50 minutes of music, it is obvious that this album is a well-thought out, intriguing masterpiece Think of it as abstract art. At a glance it is disorganized, but with further study it turns out to be a fluent, well orchestrated showpiece ready to challenge any listener.

"Gloss Drop" by Battles receives an 8.5 out of 10

windishagency.com

Moon Festival

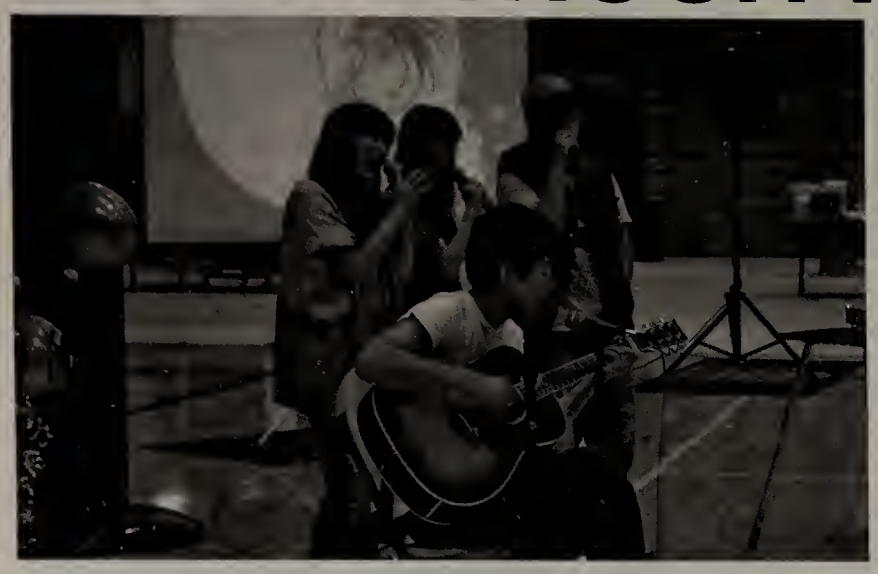


Photo: Morgan Walker

Kaiyuan Cheng, Yi Ouyang and others present a guitar performance of the song "Old Boy" during the Chinese Moon festival on Septemer 10.

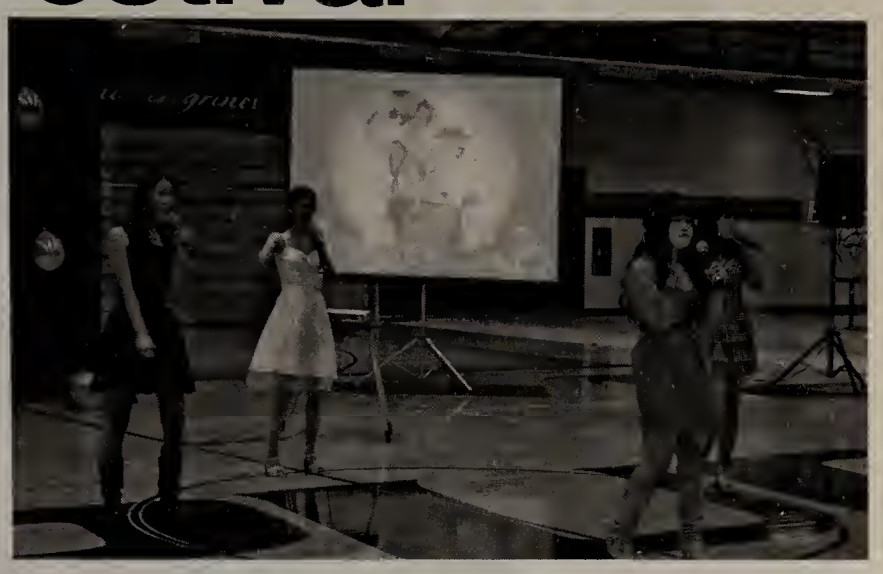


Photo: Morgan Walker

Another performance during the Moon festival was the song "Supermodel," performed by Yuchen Zhu, Sichen Dong and others.

Photo: Morgan Walker

As the final round of musical chairs was ending, the music stopped playing and Grace Kruse and Stephen Bajzatt fight over the last remaining chair to reveal who will win.

Photo: Morgan Walker

As the music stops playing, kids in the first round of musical chairs during the Moon festival on September 10 all sit down except for six-year-old Lily St. Jean, daughter of PUC History professor Wendy St.Jean.

Welcome back picnic

Photo: Lulu Zhao

During the Welcome back picnic, Senator-at-large for Commuter Students Nathyn Gibson attempts to entice passersby to take some of the free popcorn provided by Student Activities with funny jokes and movements.

Photo: Lulu Zhao

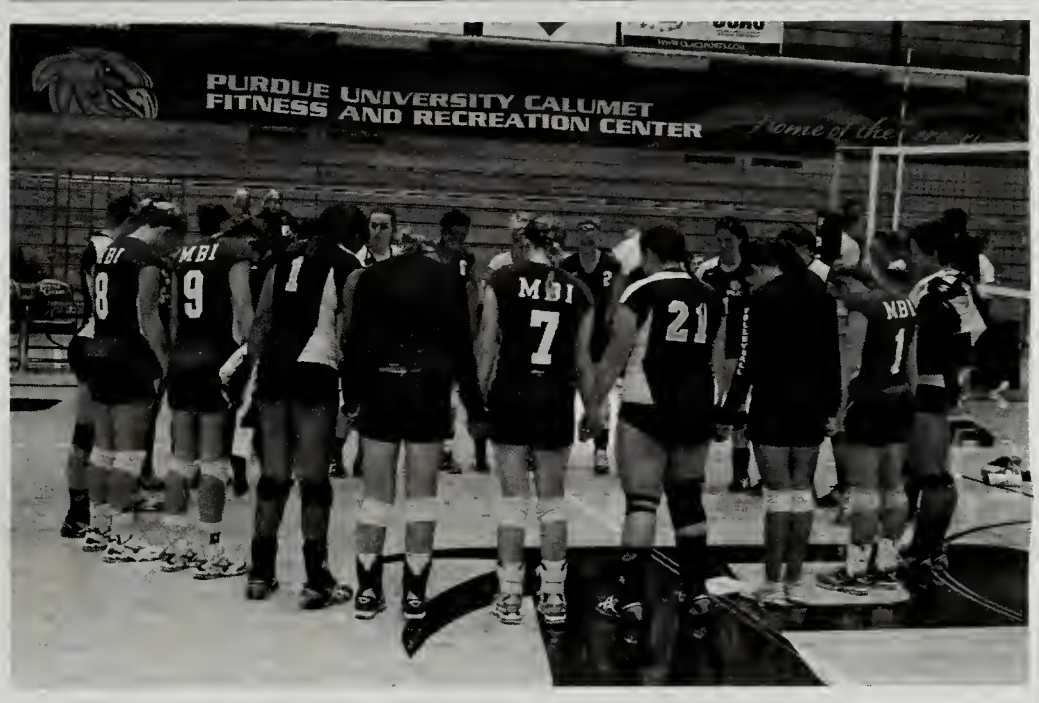
The Chinese Student Association decorated their table for the Welcome back picnic on September 7 with beautiful Chinese charms and fans.

Photo: Lulu Zhao

Dj Paul Segal playing all the catchy songs during the Welcome back picnic on Sept. 7.

A week of highs and lows

Jacob Arredondo
Sports Writer



Photos: Natynn Gibson

ABOVE: Brittnie Sanders and Catherine Yoder anticipate the opponent's serve during PUC's game against Robert Morris University.

BELOW: Following the game with Moody Bible Institute, the PUC volleyball team joins hands with their opponents for a group prayer in the middle of the court.

The PUC women's volleyball team had a rough time this past week in the amount of games they had to play, let alone their performance. But adding to the mix winning only one of five, and things do not get any easier.

On Sept. 6, PUC took on the always tough Robert Morris University Eagles. In the first game of the night, a night marking the home debut for the ladies, the teams battled back and forth to an early 9-6 lead.

Unfortunately, as time went on, the Eagles discovered a formerly unknown unity on the court and rallied to finish the first game in their favor. They never looked back. The next two games went quickly as the Eagles dominated at both ends of the court.

Some positive notes to take from the game were the return of Savannah Hauter, who has been tied down to the desk all semester in an impressive academic campaign.

"Honestly, I felt great being out there with those girls," Hauter said. "I know the outcome wasn't exactly what we would've liked it to be, but we all worked so hard"

Another positive point was the apparent chemistry demonstrated throughout the match. From a viewer's perspective, it would appear that PUC really only struggles with the little things, making a couple of mental errors here and there that ultimately add up to their defeat. This is a team that demonstrates way more promise than last year though, and they continue to grow as a unit.

They would take that unity up against Moody Bible Sept. 8 at the PUC Fitness and Recreation Center. In a game that featured some tough play on both sides, PUC saw a golden opportunity slip away, losing a game that could have very well been theirs. It was that same culmination of the small things that ultimately was their demise.

After rushing out to a lead in the first set, PUC struggled with consistency and watched the game crumble before their eyes. Facing an uphill battle in the second set, they knew better than to let it go and rallied to a victory in the set. Though they played Moody Bible tough in the final two sets, the Archers were too much, as PUC dropped their second match in a row.

Despite the losses, the ladies were not down, heading into the IU/PU Classic Sept. 10.

"We should kick all three teams (butts) but we'll see how it goes," Senior Catherine Yoder said.

In the first match of the Classic, PUC edged out region rival IUN in a 3-2 victory that saw a range of season highlights for PUC. This was the sole high point of the day though, as they dropped their next two games to PNC and IUSB.

All in all, the week saw PUC's record close out to 2-5 overall.

Hoops

continued from page 12

men. "They're good, strong athletes who are also smart in the classroom. They'll make an immediate impact for the program."

If the blessing of Beck, who understands the prospect of performing well in the CCAC, is any indication, these newcomers should be fun to watch.

Intramurals this week

Sept. 12: Foosball Tournament, 7:00 FRC
Sept. 14: Homerun Derby, 6:30 PUC gym
Sept. 15: Eating Contest, 7:00 PUC gym

XC

continued from page 12

clocked in at 30 minutes 20 seconds and placed 49th overall.

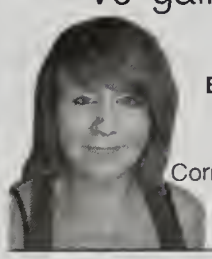
Watson came in second among the team with at 32 minutes 37 seconds, and freshman Stephen Bajzatt followed a mere second behind at 32 minutes 38 seconds. Seniors Ben Moul and Andrew Oltmanns placed fourth and fifth, respectively.

The women's team currently does not meet the minimum requirement of five members to be an official team, but the runners still got to compete as individuals. For the women, sophomore Kristina Schafer finished at 24 minutes 18 seconds, while freshman Kristen Stapay followed up at 24 minutes 41 seconds.

"It was a great experience as a first meet for our team," Bliss said. "Everyone went to the meet with high expectations, and all of their goals, including mine were met. We are looking forward to our upcoming meets and improving everyone's times and team score."

"(It was) important to make a name for ourselves as an upcoming team," Oltmanns said, "(and) show we take it seriously."

'Ve-gain' your health



Bernadette Bowen
Chronicle Correspondent

Vegans are frequently misunderstood as fringe eaters with an unnatural passion for animal rights.

Although some vegans may feel passionately about animals, it is about time for others to see that a vegan diet can have health benefits that outweigh the negative stigma that has been branded on the lifestyle.

For those who are not aware, a vegan is someone who does not consume anything that is of animal origin. This includes any animal flesh, dairy products and eggs.

"Where are the vegans going to get their protein and calcium?!" mislead carnivores cry out in cynicism.

Well, as it turns out, vegetables, fruits, beans, nuts and whole grains give the human body every nutrient it could ever need. The only exception is vitamin B12, but this is conveniently remedied by taking it in supplement form every couple days, as it is not needed daily.

There has never even been a documented vitamin B12 deficiency linked to a vegan diet, which suggests these claims were just contrived in attempt to bash the lifestyle. Really, a well-balanced vegan diet is able to meet all nutrient requirements, appropriate for all stages of life including: pregnancy, lactation, infancy, childhood and adolescence.

In addition, after transitioning from a typical animal protein-dominated diet to a balanced vegan diet, there are natural benefits of finally ingesting all the proper vitamins and minerals. In the first few weeks during a vegan lifestyle transformation, the body goes to work detoxifying itself of all the harsh animal proteins and toxins that have accumulated throughout the course of a lifetime. It is kind of like an oil change for the human body.

This results in a wide array of health benefits, such as increased energy, stronger skin, hair, and nails, body weight and BMI stabilization, decrease of general body odors, reduced headaches, and decreased sinus issues in general, sometimes even including allergies. A vegan diet has also been shown to prevent some of the major diseases like cancer, diabetes, rheumatoid arthritis, hypertension and heart disease. This is because of the lack of typical excess cholesterol that would have been clogged in tissues from animal originated foods.

When it comes down to it, everyone's choice to live as healthy or unhealthy as they want is in their own hands. Unfortunately, flesh and dairy centered meals seem to dominate in our society. But before hitting up that KFC or picking up that burger at the drive-thru, remember there is virtually nothing to lose and everything to gain by going vegan.

Cross Country debut a success

Bill Koester
Sports Editor

Photo Provided

Kristina Schafer led the women's cross country team after finishing with a time of 24 minutes, 18 seconds.

Photo Provided

Henry Muro came out on top of the men's team after running 8 km in 30 minutes, 20 seconds.

For any team, the first competition of the year can be a little nerve-wracking, but when a team faces its first competition ever, the pressure seems much higher.

For the men's and women's cross country teams, this was the situation as the team completed its very first meet at Olivet Nazarene's Midwest Classic on Sept. 9. And yet, even though they never had a meet, nervousness seemed to be nowhere in sight. Instead, the runners were focused and ready to go.

Head coach Matt Bliss liked what he saw as practices went on from the start of the year. The rigorous training, which features a combined seven or eight miles of running, helped each individual improve not only their time, but their stamina as well.

"It's too early to say if they're prepared," Bliss said. "We'll make that assessment after a couple of races. They're handling what I've thrown at them well."

The inaugural race for the two teams took place over the Aspen Ridge Golf Course in Bourbonnais, IL, with a distance of 8 km (just under 5 miles) for the men, and 5 km for the women. Runners can generally finish that length in between 25 and 30 minutes.

As this was PUC's first meet ever, finishing in the top spots on the leader board was admittedly a long shot. So instead of focusing on their rankings, the teams looked to their first meet as a springboard from which to look to the future.

"It gives everyone a chance to see where they're at," Assistant Coach Karen Nagel said. "It gives them a stepping stone to set individual goals."

"We'll just do the best we possibly can," sophomore team member Rodney Watson said. "The first race is a foundation, and we'll build up from it."

At the meet, the team leader was senior Henry Muro, who

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Women's hoops newcomers

Jacob Arredondo
Sports Writer

PUC women's basketball is right around the corner, and while there are many familiar faces returning, they are bringing along a few new ones as well.

This off season, PUC successfully recruited a few stellar athletes in South Central High School's Stephanie Balon, Lake Central High School's Carolyn Sandrick, L'Anse Creuse North High School's Ellie Rawski, Brown County's Kami Graber and Carrol High School's Quinci Eller.

While the main object of PUC women's hoops has never changed, filling in missing spots with young, inexperienced talent is always a challenge. The hope is to have success in the long run with the recruits at hand.

"We intend to continue to improve and be in contention for the conference championship," Head Coach Tom Megyesi said.

While this outlook is unchanged from the most recent previous years, the women's hoops team has a long season ahead that has them replacing team mainstays in Jennifer Britton and Meme Harris. Both players are in the PUC record books and attempting to fill their shoes is going to be a challenge for the most experienced players, let alone a few freshmen adjusting to the college life and the new level of competition on the court simultaneously.

"It is difficult to replace such quality student athletes. However we do have some outstanding recruits coming in this year," Megyesi said.

Senior Captain Stephanie Beck added, "No one could replace the two and making up for a loss isn't really replacing them either, but I have confidence knowing that they'll do what coach asks of them to do."

The good news is that with the abundance of talent recruited, PUC has many options at different positions of the floor. In addition to this, they do return with their top two leading scorers in junior do-all guard Tierra Turner and senior sharpshooter Beck.

So far the outlook for this year's team is promising, to say the least. More good news is Megyesi has wasted no time getting the team together and starting workouts in preparation for the demanding season.

"Pre-season conditioning is going well," Megyesi said. "We are working on our aerobic and anaerobic conditioning as well as our strength."

"They're solid, all around," Beck said of the incoming fresh-

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